(a) whether Government have received any representation against the MoU signed between Suzuki and Government recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) MUL Employees Union had submitted a representation for repeal of the Memorandum of Understanding and Settlement (MOUS) signed between Govt. of India (GOI) & Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC). The representatives of the MUL Employees Union met IM and MOS (I), and their apprehensions in the matter have been allayed.

Gem and Jewellery Park at Karwar

4335. SHRI K. RAHAMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal for the establishment of "Gem and Jewellery Park" at Karwar;

(b) whether SIDBI has appraised the project and recommended the proposal; and

(c) if so, by when Government are going to give sanction for the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (c) For establishment of a Centre for small scale and tiny units in the rural/backward areas under the Integrated Infrastructural Development (IID) Scheme, the State Govts. are required to conduct a comprehensive Potential Survey, prepare Project Report and submit the proposal to SIDBI for appraisal. The proposal of Govt. of Karnataka to set-up IID Centre at Karwar for Gem & Jewellery units was submitted sometime back to SIDBI. However, SIDBI could not take up appraisal of the project to establish technical and economic viability of the project since the Govt. of Karnataka has not so far submitted the Potential Survey Report which is a pre-requirement. The Government will consider the project for approval only after SIDBI finds the project viable and its recommendations become available.

Foreign investment in Assam

4336. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the target fixed by Government for foreign investment in Assam during the last five years under the new liberalisation policy; and

(b) the effective measures being taken by government to achieve the target in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) Government of India has not fixed any target for foreign investment in Assam. However, Government of India has taken a series of steps to streamline procedures for both domestic and foreign investment. Government of India also has a scheme of tax holiday for invesment in infrastructure sector and for industries in specified backward areas. Except for a short list of seven industries for which industrial license is required, all other industries have been delicensed. Govt. of India has already undertaken a number of measures to introduce transparency in approval procedures by way of expanding the list of items for automatic approval as well as by notifying guidelines for consideration of proposals by the FIPB in clearance of cases.

Subsidy for N.E. region

4337. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the objective and criteria of providing transport subsidy and capital investment subsidy to various under developed States of the country including North-Eastern region;

(b) the number and amount of claims for transport subsidy and capital investment subsidy from constituent States of North-Eastern region received and cleared by Government since 1988, year-wise and state-wise; and

(c) the list of outstanding cases including various PSUs to whom subsidy are to be released alongwith amount involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Transport Subsidy Scheme, 1971 and the Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme, 1997 has been introduced with a view to promoting and accelerating